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Nothing can be substituted for the Royal Baking Powder and give as good results.

been so dazzlingly turned upon him as

There was nothing awkward in the

"I never dreamed you were senti-

"I never was sentimental," she an-

She raised her eyes full to his. They

glowed in their black depths with some-

thing which might be the memory of a

"Had I been sentimental I had never

"But—you seem so happy together!"

the words-"are so different from the

Egyptians. We hide our skeletons. Be-

"Certainly you do not. Men never do,

"No, he does not suspect," she an-

"Yes, he loves me, and he knows

She turned away her face, the same

Lord Martindale, the British banker.

toward the others and said quietly:

"I have found that women who marry

The three Englishmen were very near,

She spoke his name without emphasis,

And once more, as the others reached

PART III-CHAPTER III.

KISMET, OR CHANCE?

"We have fixed another excursion,"

have to run over to Suez, you know.

Then the British banker, with proper

them, he muttered to himself:

"Is it kismet?"

this time.

forfeit her good opinion."

suppose that I was unhappy.

As his words sounded on his own ear

closer and more resistless.

its rich music that added:

moved-at random:

mental!

## now. And there was suppressed sadness world of feeling growing in the eyes into which he looked. That nameless thrill

A Character Study in the serpent charm—drew about the man. Three Parts.

By T. C. DE LEON.

PART III .- UNDER SHADOW OF THE SPHINX

swered slowly. "No; even when, once in my life, I knew that I-loved!" Lady Martindale had been silent longer

than her wont. Suddenly she looked up at Latour and said: "Does not this carry you home?" "Scarcely," he replied, with a laugh. dead passion, might be its living and

"Were I asked to name the spot I had burning reality. But, as the eyes dropseen most un-American I should say the ped quickly, the voice was unmoved in and she dropped them quickly as he an-"Not American, perhaps," Edith an-

swered, "but Creole. Two years ago been his-wife!" Martindale and I were in New Orleans at carnival time, and of course we did the French market. Only at the antipo- Latour felt that the cavalry colonel was des do extremes meet, and nowhere else floundering, deeper than the cadet had than here have I seen such varied types ever done. of men and women, such differing complexions and so many tongued a babble. These fellahs and Nubians replace your negroes and mulattoes; the high Turks represent the dominant northerners, controlling the government and the busi- stately and bloodless automatons recogness: while these Copts and Egyptians nized by her gracious majesty annually are your Creoles, who never change un- as the Mantindale dowager peeresses to

"You are a singular woman," the man answered, with the easy freedom of old abruptly; but she answered before he friendship. "To what your sex usually finished lend their eyes you give your ears and brains as well. I have 'done' the Ez- as I told you before the Sphinx today; bekieh with lords and ladies, with sa- but I am not unhappy in the leastvants from nearly every country in Eu- about that. I am only dreadfully weary long tour of duty with us today. Good rope and with many an American, and of it all—the forms, the boredom and the night." never before have I heard such a sugges- acting.'

ful adopted mother of yours has recalled your natural one to me a dozen times, though I never spoke of it before."

you say," Latour answered, falling into might be pleasanter to us both." her mood. "The different quarters of Cairo, confining the different nationalities, do suggest Frenchtown and the said with ill suppressed vehemence. eastern district."

"And yonder," she said seriously, the graceful arm sweeping toward the Nile, seventeenth Lady Martindale respects is the antipodal first cousin of your

"By Joye! Lady Edith." Latour cried. "I believe you are making notes for your expression on it as when, ten years bebook upon Egypt. But there is strong fore, she sat with him by the Hudson, analogy between the rivers. Only note waiting for the words that never came. "With the Arab nature's beneficence is a set determination about the lips. tians, at home, dam the mud-in both blackness, glowed with a passionate visit even for days. But he had scarcely instead of enriching our fields."

"Attempts to coerce nature are never tremulously upon hers, fully successful," the woman answered, watch the results of transplanting buds support. What was I but—an advent- the commander's presence. fron the American forcing house into uress? No, do not deprecate the ugly | For a moment the Arab stood like a that social garden of Eden the British aristocracy.

"Doubtless," Latour answered frankfor that transplanting as you were."

There came the old time darkening into the brown eyes raised to and Sir Roger moved toward them, behis, but behind it a something which neath the palms. Lady Martindale drew warrior. At length the Arab saluted by he could not read. "As I was? Oh, how on the long glove she had removed. Her

There was an awkward pause. Latour thought of a hundred things in the brief for independence are like states that interval; but not one of them would do combine for it. Neither get it without at all to answer her strange speech. Her -a revolution!" eyes were fixed upon the ground. Without raising them she said rapidly, with almost within earshot, as she rose, addsuppressed vehemence:

My old friend, I can say truthfully that not only was I less fitted to find Now I am worse; I am a failure, Adrien!" spoke. happiness in outward success than most other slaves of that harem of conve- but it thrilled his ear like music. His nance, but, had I then known myself at heart beat faster than it ever had in all Sheik Abou-Ali sendeth greeting unto all, I should have starved before I be- their "Flirtation" days. A dull sense of Ismail Pasha, viceroy of Egypt, whose

came one of the western odalisques!" Latour stared at the beautiful woman query sounding in it, if he had really Mohammed-ben-Zizi, sheik of the Beniby his side in much wonderment. Like been fit to comprehend her in all those Ali." lightning his memory reverted to that wasted days of the long ago-if really he long summer, when they had wandered comprehended himself now! about "Flirtation," she already the thorough woman of society, he the gauche, untried cadet. How different, yet how little changed, she seemed now to his more perceptive eyes-all the traits of her grand face toned, but not matured, by time, the always lissome figure developed into absolute perfection, without

one suspicion of overfulness! Never before, even in the close intimacy of the renewed past, had the Rather a bore to him; but suppose we Arabic characters and tied by a silken physical woman so attracted him as now, sitting under the palm, with the Martindale, if it is not on horseback, clinging folds of her rich gown suggesting those perfect lines, seen only in the taper feet peeping beneath it, the long.

firm hands lying listless in her lap. Never before had the mental woman by rail across the desert, on the view of



Latour took the scroll, examining the

the canal, with its artificial harbor; the excellence of the lunch in prospect, and the coolness of the return by midnight of the same day.

"Sir Roger is going, and we count on the pleasure of your company also, Col. Latour," Mr. Usseler added.

"You are very good," Latour answered, waking out of a reverie in time to save his politeness. "But I am daily expecting an embassy from a refractory and very powerful sheik, and must remain at my post to receive it."

Sir Roger had said good-night; the party was moving toward the hotel, the banker still clinging to the peer, and leaving Edith to follow with Latour. She had not spoken since her husband

joined them. Neither did he feel like alking those nothings which go for conversation at such times. The past had come to him at the woman's words. They had swept across his memory as in her tone, spite of the bitter words-a the acid sponge sweeps over the palimpsest, and the characters of the dead long ago stood out clear, strong, and with of feminine contact-softer than the new meaning now. Again he was the mesmerist's spell, more dangerous than callow cadet, untutored in the world's ways and in woman's. Again he wandered round "Flirtation," with a soft pressure on his arm and a soft voice in silence now, yet it seemed unbearable to his ear; with strange, deep eyes searchhim. He spoke as men often do, so ing his.

At the hotel Mr. Usseler left them, with elaborate obsecration of Providence for pleasant dreams.

Then Lady Martindale spoke for the first time, but in voice so low that it could not have reached her husband, striking a fusee on the bottom step: "Can you forgive my selfishness in recalling the past?

Her eyes were raised to his. In the moonlight they shone a fathomless black, swered low:

"Forgive! Do you know what I owe you for the present?"

"Have a smoke as you walk?" Lord Martindale broke in cheerily. "Not half bad these, you know; some my cousin George! awfully stupid of me really, but "Seem? Society is exigeant, and we I quite forgot that an old friend of English"—she put bitter emphasis upon yours"

"It is dreadfully late, Lord Martindale," his lady said in her best society sides, it would be a triumph for the tone, "and we have monopolized Col Latour all day. "Yes, so we have, really," responded

her husband. "Have a light. But I really forgot to mention that at Hoyne-"I do not understand"— Latour began | Cecil's in London and constantly at Paris Really, my lord," Edith again broke

in, rather hastily this time, "you should defer your story for daylight. I am sure Col. Latour must need conge after his she extended her ungloved hand. It

'And he suspects?" His voice was ested in his no second longer than the "Familiarity, you know," she said, eager, and he leaned toward her with strict limit of form, but there was that with her rare smile. "But this wonder- his old Creole impetuosity. man like electricity as he strode off into swered rather wearily. "He knows. 1 the shadows of the palm trees. told him in Paris, six weeks ago, that a

Reaching his quarters he stood long at "There certainly is something in what quiet separation and a residence abroad the window, gazing out toward the dim shadow of the distant Sphinx. And as he "And he refused! No man could give turned and threw himself upon his bed

you up without more reason!" Latour he muttered: "She spoke truly of the statue; woman is the riddle of the ages.'

he will have no more reason. The But early next morning his adjutant eported that the embassy of Sheik Edith Van der Huysen too much ever to Abou-Ali had appeared, a small body of Bedouin horsemen, who had pitched tents some three miles south of the city, but made as yet no sign.

Knowing the Arabs' way Latour took his morning tub and coffee with unusual difference," he added more lightly. The lines of that face were firmer now, dispatch, heard morning reports and or dered the day's routine. The Arab might joyously hailed and utilized; we Chris- Suddenly, the eyes, darkened near to arrive at any moment-might delay his senses; forcing it to bar out commerce yearning in them. In the deep shadow finished his work when a noble looking between them his hand rested lightly, Bedonin rode alone and slowly to the gate and looked around with curious "You know my past," she said low carelessness of novel surroundings. Then looking dreamily at the others of their and sadly, not moving her face: "a he dismounted from his magnificent des-"I see proof every day in En- motherless girl, foster reared by society, ert mare, strode past the sentry without There it is a curious study to with an old name and a false position to note of his "carry" and was ushered into

word. It is God's truth, I had to buy statue, his white bournous drawn closely my future-unless destiny could be re- about his tall figure, the soft folds of his versed, and the man I worshiped cared ample white turban marking more "But all our women are not fitted for me! And to buy it I had only-my- strongly his dark bronzed face and keen thin features. An old man certainly, he was erect and agile as a youth, his firm tread and dignified port marking the placing the back of his open hand upon little men read us! How little we un- voice was the usual one as she still looked his brow and lips, not adding the more effusive gesture often used of pressing it

also upon his heart. Latour saluted courteously and in si lence, motioning his visitor to a seat upon the divan. Then the servant brought coffee in egg shell porcelain cups, and the chibouque-ghi swiftly filled the bowls of pipes with the fragrant "Yes, I was an adventuress then. Latakieh tobacco. At last the Arab

"Salaam aliekoum?" ("Peace be with theef") he said gravely. "The great wonderment was about his brain-a warrior thou art. I am his m

"Peace be with thee, also," Latour re plied in Arabic. "It is well; and thou, O sheik, art welcome. We will speak further of thy message from the great Sheik Abou-Ali, whose name is well known to me.

"Nothing have I to speak of with thee, O warrior," replied the Arab. sedately. "I am but the bearer of this writing for Lord Martindale said, as he approached the hands of Ismail, the grandson of with the banker. "Mr. Usseler and I Mehemet Ali."

He produced a scroll addressed in shall make it bearable to you, Lady string, sealed with a heavy signet in black wax. Latour took the scroll, examining the seal before he answered: "This writing shall be sent at once by

deprecation to a British peer and peer-ess, elaborated on the novelty of a trip 'sing of all Egypt." "It is well," the Arab answered. "But | Try Germen for Breakfast.

know, O warrior, that Ismail, son of Ibrahim, is the ruler of Egyyt, but not of the tribes of the Beni-Ali. Only one master know they—the great sheik of all the Bedouins, whom men call the king of Syria."

"Thou hast spoken, O sheik," Latour replied with equal gravity. "The writing shall go to his highness this very hour. For the other matters thou speakest of-thou art a soldier as I am. We listen only and obey."

"Thou sayest wisely, O warrior," responded the sheik. "I will await under my tent the return of thy messenger. Peace be with thee!" And he rose to de

"Peace be with thee, also," again anwered Latour. "I do not make thee, O theik, the empty offer of a palace within pur walls; for well I know that the children of the desert breathe not freely un-

Without reply the Arab again made

gesture of salutation and departed slowly. Latour wrote and sent his dispatch to the minister of war, took his noonday meal and smoked a chibouque. Then he picked up a volume of the new "Up-ton Tactics," liberally margined with notes of his own. Over the page danced diagrams of the Military scademy, with memory traced maps of its favorite walk.

The pressure of duty over, reaction had come; the unwonted scenes of the past night dominated his thoughts and a restlessness possessed him which his pipe and his divan could not overcome. So, throwing on a white mess jacket, he strolled lazily out into the stifling air of the narrow streets. Mechanically he crossed the Ezbekieh and approached the Hotel d'Orient, never noting his route until he almost ran against Lord Martindale's man

"Why, Harrist" he exclaimed, "you here: Has Lord Martindale already returned?"

"No, your 'ighness, 'e 'asn't," answered the man with woful failure of a military salute. "'Is ludship will not be 'ome until hafter midnight, but Hi was left ecause 'er leddyship was hill." "Her ladyship ill!" Latour repeated.

"Not now, your 'ighness; not now," Harris replied. "But she was so hill this mornink that melud Martindale could 'ardly consent to leave 'er. Honly 'er leddyship hinsisted, in 'er hown way, so Pearson inted to me. Hand wen 'er leddyship hinsists, wy 'is ludship 'as honly one think to do—Hi beg your 'ighness' pardon," he interrupted himself suddenly. "Hi 'ope your 'ighness ll hoverlook my repeatink of Pearson's hindecent"-

"Hold your tongue! Come with me." Latour answered turning into the fruit shop near.

And soon Harris, as penance for too loose a tongue, was staggering under a hamper of those fruits rarest to western taste, accompanied by a note penciled on his card, to regret her sickness and proffer Lady Martindale any possible ervice during her husband's absence.

Suddenly the Creole's restlessness all disappeared; he found the heat outside inbearable; so, returning to quarters, threw himself on the divan and read Joton, quite understandingly.

Ere long Harris, now quite taciturn, brought a note of thanks. Lady Martindale was quite recovered; would again trespass on Col. Latour's goodness for horses for herself and groom. felt the need of a gallop, and Lord Martindale would be absent until midnight. Of course the reply was that Col. Latour begged to accompany her ladyship, after evening stables.

TO BE CONTINUED.)

Pretty and Picturesque. It seems as if there were never so many pretty girls as there are today. Their youthful loveliness is a pleasure to every one. Even the most crossgrained, soured mortal must feel a thrill of exultation in life when one of these fair girls, bubbling over with gay spirits and animation, passes by. They have a right to be clothed becomingly, as, indeed, the city girl usually is. Bright plaids are made into plain skirts and worn with silk waists and girdles for common dresses, the very simplicity of

which is a strong recommendation. Sultana reds and Santa Maria blues are colors particularly suitable for schoolgirls in fine faced fabrics which may be used for nice dresses. I saw a cheviot the other day in a new shade of navy blue which was made up for a girl of seventeen or so, with yoke, sleeves and skirt band of broche silk with a dash of red. Other blue dresses are neatly trimmed with pinked cloth, combining the two colors of red and blue.

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otive of appetite, sleep and the acquisition o

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